

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIAGO 04600 022047Z

73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 DRC-01 /122 W

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R 022009Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9663

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PGOV, PINT

SUBJ: REGIONAL INTENDENTES TAKE OFFICE

REF: SANTIAGO 4183

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGIONALIZATION DECREE-LAWS (REFTEL), FIRST FIVE REGIONAL INTENDENTES WERE INSTALLED IN OFFICE AUG 1. AREAS AFFECTED AS PART OF "PILOT PROGRAM" ARE TWO NORTHERNMOST REGIONS (TARAPACA AND ANTOFAGASTA PROVINCES), TWO SOUTHERNMOST (MAGALLANES AND AYSSEN PROVINCES), AND BIO BIO WATERSHED AREA IN SOUTH-CENTRAL CHILE CENTERING IN CONCEPCION (CONCEPCION, NUBLE, BIO BIO AND ARAUCO PROVINCES). ALL FIVE REGIONAL INTENDENTES ARE ALSO THE SENIOR MILITARY COMMANDERS IN AREA - GENERALS FORESTIER AND GARAY IN NORTH, GENERAL LUTZ AND COLONEL GORDON IN SOUTH, AND GENERAL GONZALEZ IN CONCEPCION. PRESS REPORTS BEGINNING OF EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE THE VARIOUS ADVISORY COUNCILS STIPULATED IN REGIONALIZATION DECREES FOR EACH REGION.

2. JUNTA PRESIDENT PINOCHET ISSUED MESSAGE STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF EVENT. REGIONALIZATION IS "A CHALLENGE FOR ALL CHILEANS," PINOCHET STATED, AND SYMBOLIZES NEED FOR CHILEANS TO IDENTIFY "WITH A GREATER GOAL" AS PART OF PROCESS OF REBUILDING A SHATTERED NATION.

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PAGE 02 SANTIAGO 04600 022047Z

3. COMMENT. GOC IS SHOWING BY ITS ACTS THAT AT LEAST AT SENIOR LEVELS, IT TAKES GOAL OF REGIONALIZATION SERIOUSLY AND IS WORKING TO PUT IT INTO OPERATION. REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF TWO NECESSARY INGREDIENTS IN EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF PLAN -- TRUE DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY AND ACCESS TO ADEQUATE FINANCIAL RESOURCES -- WILL ACTUALLY BE DELEGATED FROM SANTIAGO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

POPPER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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